Amendments to the Claims: This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1.- 7. Cancelled

8. (New) An actuating unit for an electromechanically actuated disc brake for automotive vehicles, which is disposed on a brake caliper wherein two friction linings respectively cooperating with a side face of a brake disc are arranged in a manner displaceable to a limited extent, with one of said friction linings being arranged so as to be directly movable into engagement with the brake disc by means of an actuating element, through the actuating unit, while the other friction lining is movable into engagement with the brake disc through the action of a reaction force applied by the brake caliper, wherein the actuating unit comprises an electric motor and at least one reduction gear operatively arranged between the electric motor and the first friction lining, and with the reduction gear being formed of a threaded drive accommodated in a gear housing and including a cylindrical guide piece that is provided with a sensor device for sensing the reaction force, wherein the guide piece has a reduced thickness of material or an aperture in the area of attachment of the sensor device, and a prefabricated sensor module that allows testing outside the guide piece and forms the sensor device is arranged in the area of attachment or within or above the aperture.

9. (New) An actuating unit according to claim 8,
wherein the sensor module includes a carrier element on which a measuring element and contacting means are arranged.

10. (New) An actuating unit according to claim 8,
wherein the carrier element is welded, preferably laser welded, to the guide piece.

11. (New) An actuating unit according to claim 8,
wherein the carrier element is configured as a tension member.

12. (New) An actuating unit according to claim 8,
wherein recesses or slits are provided in the guide piece close to the area of attachment of the sensor device.

13. (New) An actuating unit according to claim 11,

wherein a contact grid punched from metal or flexible foils is provided for contacting the sensor device.

14. (New) An actuating unit according to claim 8,

wherein an electric interface or a plug, to which the metal grid is connected, is arranged in the area of the guide piece facing the friction lining.